

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A camera comprising:
photographing means;
positioning means;
positioning timing control means for causing said
positioning means to execute positioning at a
predetermined timing to thereby obtain positional
information;
memory means for storing a plurality of images
photographed by said photographing means; and
memory control means for storing said positional
information obtained by said positioning timing control
means in said memory means in association with said
plurality of photographed images.
 15. 2. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said
predetermined timing for obtaining said positional
information is when said camera is powered on or
powered off.
 20. 3. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said
predetermined timing for obtaining said positional
information is when a photographing mode is set or is
released.
 25. 4. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said
predetermined timing for obtaining said positional
information is when a date or a date and time are
changed.
 5. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said

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predetermined timing for obtaining said positional information is when a folder provided in said memory means as a storage location for a photographed image is changed or a folder is newly provided.

5 6. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said memory control means stores said positional information in said memory means in association with a plurality of images photographed by said photographing means under a predetermined condition.

10 7. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said positioning timing control means performs positioning again to acquire new positional information when a predetermined time elapses since said predetermined timing.

15 8. The camera according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined timing for obtaining said positional information is when an interval of photographing done by said photographing means exceeds a predetermined time.

20 9. The camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

photographing instruction means for instructing photographing by said photographing means, and

25 photographing control means for performing photographing using said photographing means to acquire a photographed image when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means; and

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5 wherein said positioning timing control means executes positioning by using said positioning means to thereby acquire positional information when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means; and

 said memory control means includes:

10 first memory control means for storing said positional information acquired by said positioning timing control means in said memory means in association with a photographed image acquired by said photographing control means, and

15 second memory control means for storing a photographed image whose photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means during positioning by said positioning means and which is acquired by said photographing control means in said memory means in association with said positional information stored in said memory by said first memory control means.

20 10. The camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

 photographing instruction means for instructing photographing by said photographing means, and

25 photographing control means for performing photographing using said photographing means to acquire a photographed image when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means; and

 wherein said positioning timing control means

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executes positioning by using said positioning means to thereby acquire positional information when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means; and

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said memory control means includes:

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first memory control means for storing said positional information acquired by said positioning timing control means in said memory means in association with a photographed image acquired by said photographing control means, and

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second memory control means for storing a photographed image whose photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means before a predetermined time elapses from a predetermined timing after a photographing instruction given by said photographing instruction means and which is acquired by said photographing control means in said memory means in association with said positional information stored in said memory by said first memory control means.

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11. A photographing location memorizing method for a camera having photographing means and positioning means, comprising the steps of:

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causing said positioning means to execute positioning at a predetermined timing to acquire positional information and causing said photographing means to photograph an image; and

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storing a plurality of images acquired by said photographing means and storing said positional information in association with said plurality of photographed images.

5 12. A camera comprising:

photographing means having a series photographing capability, for acquiring image data of a subject;

positioning means;

10 timing control means for controlling a timing at which said positioning means executes positioning to obtain positional information;

series photographing instruction means for giving a series photographing instruction to said photographing means to carry out series photographing;

15 series photographing control means for performing such control as to cause said photographing means to execute series photographing to acquire a plurality of photographed images in response to said series photographing instruction given by said series photographing instruction means;

memory means for storing said plurality of photographed images acquired under control of said series photographing control means; and

25 memory control means for storing said positional information obtained by said positioning means in said memory means in association with said plurality of photographed images acquired by said photographing

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means.

13. The camera according to claim 12, wherein said timing which is controlled by said timing control means is before or immediately after said series photographing instruction is given by said series photographing instruction means.

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14. The camera according to claim 12, wherein said timing which is controlled by said timing control means is immediately before or immediately after said series photographing is finished.

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15. The camera according to claim 12, wherein said timing which is controlled by said timing control means is when said photographing means is doing series photographing.

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16. The camera according to claim 12, wherein said timing control means includes:

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first positioning timing control means for controlling said timing in such a way that said positioning means executes positioning to acquire first positional information before or immediately after said series photographing instruction is given by said series photographing instruction means, and

second positioning timing control means for

controlling said timing in such a way that said

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positioning means executes positioning to acquire second positional information immediately before or immediately after series photographing by said series

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photographing control means is finished;
said camera further comprises positional
information computing means for computing new
positional information using said first and second
positional information; and
said memory control means stores said positional
information computed by said positional information
computing means in said memory means in association
with said plurality of photographed images acquired by
said series photographing control means.

17. A photographing location memorizing method for
a camera having photographing means for acquiring image
data of a subject, positioning means and a series
photographing capability, comprising the steps of:

15 causing said positioning means to execute
positioning at a predetermined timing to acquire
positional information and causing said photographing
means to carry out series photographing in response to
a series photographing instruction; and

20 storing a plurality of photographed images
acquired by said series photographing and storing said
positional information in association with said
plurality of photographed images.

18. A camera comprising:

25 photographing means for acquiring image data of a
subject;
positioning means; and

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positioning timing control means for controlling said positioning means in such a way that positioning is carried out immediately before or immediately after photographing by said photographing means.

5 19. The camera according to claim 18, further comprising photographing instruction means for giving a photographing instruction to said photographing means; and

10 wherein said positioning timing control means controls said positioning means in such a way that positioning is carried out immediately before or immediately after said photographing instruction is given by said photographing instruction means.

15 20. The camera according to claim 19, further comprising positioning instruction means for giving a positioning instruction immediately before or immediately after said photographing instruction is given by said photographing instruction means, whereby said positioning timing control means controls a positioning timing of said positioning means in response to said positioning instruction from said positioning instruction means.

20 21. A camera comprising:
 photographing means;
 positioning means;
 positioning timing control means for controlling said positioning means in such a way that positioning

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is carried out at a predetermined time interval; and positioning information acquisition means for acquiring said positioning information provided by said positioning means immediately before or immediately after photographing by said photographing means.

22. A camera comprising:

photographing means;
positioning means; and
control means for controlling a positioning

10 operation by said positioning means and a photographing operation by said photographing means in such a way that a positioning timing of said positioning means and a photographing timing of said photographing means do not overlap each other.

15 23. The camera according to claim 22, further comprising priority operation setting means for selectively setting a priority of one of said positioning operation by said positioning means and said photographing operation by said photographing means over the other when said positioning operation and said photographing operation overlap each other; and

wherein said control means performs control to inhibit said positioning operation or said photographing operation based on a result of setting by said priority operation setting means.

24. The camera according to claim 18, further

A' Cont 5 comprising memory means for storing a photographed image acquired by said photographing means in association with said positioning information acquired by said positioning means.

25. The camera according to claim 18, further comprising means for inhibiting photographing by said photographing means while positioning is carried out by said positioning means.

10 26. The camera according to claim 18, further comprising notification means for notifying positioning being in progress while positioning is carried out by said positioning means.

15 27. The camera according to claim 26, wherein said notification means includes a display lamp or a sound output unit.

28. The camera according to claim 21, further comprising means for inhibiting photographing by said photographing means while positioning is carried out by said positioning means.

20 29. The camera according to claim 21, further comprising notification means for notifying positioning being in progress while positioning is carried out by said positioning means.

30. The camera according to claim 29, wherein said 25 notification means includes a display lamp or a sound output unit.

31. A positioning information acquisition method

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for a camera having photographing means and positioning means, wherein said positioning means is controlled in such a way as to execute positioning immediately before or immediately after photographing by said photographing means.

32. A positioning information acquisition method for a camera having photographing means and positioning means, comprising the steps of:

10 controlling said positioning means in such a way as to execute positioning at a predetermined time interval; and

acquiring positioning information provided by said positioning means immediately before or immediately after photographing by said photographing means.

15 33. A positioning information acquisition method for a camera having photographing means and positioning means, wherein a positioning operation by said positioning means and a photographing operation by said photographing means are controlled in such a way that a positioning timing of said positioning means and a photographing timing of said photographing means do not overlap each other.

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